

DEC 19 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are ~~struck through~~.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for evaluating a degree of work comfort by measuring myoelectric potentials during a work activity which is performed antagonistically by a pair of left and right muscles provided in a human body in bilaterally symmetrical relation, the apparatus comprising:

a pair of detection sensors for detecting the myoelectric potentials of the pair of left and right muscles provided in the human body in bilaterally symmetrical relation, the myoelectric potentials produced by actions of the pair of the muscles of the human body during the work activity;

an amplifier for amplifying the pair of myoelectric potentials detected by the detection sensors;

a waveform processing unit for generating a synchronous contraction waveform of the pair of muscles from time-series waveforms of the pair of amplified myoelectric potentials; and

an evaluation unit for evaluating a level of the degree of comfort of the work activity based on intensity information of the generated synchronous contraction waveform or frequency information of the generated synchronous contraction waveform contained in a specified intensity range,

wherein the waveform processing unit is configured to ~~performs~~ perform full-wave rectification with respect to the time-series waveforms of the pair of myoelectric potentials and selects, as a signal value of the synchronous contraction waveform, a smaller value from two respective values at ~~each time point~~ a given time in the time-series waveforms of the pair of myoelectric potentials that have been subjected to the full-wave rectification, thereby generating the synchronous contraction wave.

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus for evaluating a degree of work comfort according to claim 1, wherein the evaluation unit is configured to ~~calculates~~ calculate the intensity information of the generated synchronous contraction waveform or the frequency information of the generated synchronous contraction waveform at specified time intervals and